

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 31, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 8, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 23, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 26, 2015

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 29**

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**Introduced by Senator Beall**  
**(Principal coauthor: Senator Mitchell)**  
**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Hancock, Leno, Monning, and**  
**Stone)**  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Frazier, Low, and  
Maienschein)

December 1, 2014

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An act to add Sections 13515.28, 13515.29, and 13515.295 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officer training standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 29, as amended, Beall. Peace officer training: mental health.

Existing law requires specified categories of law enforcement officers to meet training standards pursuant to courses of training certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Existing law requires POST to include in its basic training course adequate instruction in the handling of persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness, or both. Existing law also requires POST to establish and keep updated a continuing education classroom training

course relating to law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons.

This bill would require POST to require field training officers who are instructors for the field training program to have at least 8 hours of crisis intervention ~~training related to behavioral health~~, *behavioral health training*, as specified. The bill would also require POST to require as part of its existing field training officer course, at least 4 hours of training relating to competencies of the field training program and police training program that addresses how to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability, to be completed as specified.

By requiring local law enforcement field training officers to have at least 8 additional hours of training and imposing additional training costs on local law enforcement agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 13515.28 is added to the Penal Code, to  
2 read:  
3 13515.28. (a) (1) The commission shall require the field  
4 training officers who provide instruction in the field training  
5 program to have at least eight hours of crisis intervention ~~classroom~~  
6 *behavioral health training and instructor-led active learning, such*  
7 ~~as scenario-based training, relating to behavioral health~~ to better  
8 train new peace officers *on* how to effectively interact with persons  
9 with mental illness or intellectual disability. This course shall  
10 *include classroom instruction and instructor-led active learning,*  
11 *such as scenario-based training, and shall be taught in segments*  
12 *that are at least four hours long.*  
13 (2) If a field training officer has completed eight hours of crisis  
14 intervention behavioral health ~~training~~, *training within the past 24*

1 *months, or if a field training officer has completed 40 hours of*  
2 *crisis intervention behavioral health training, the requirement*  
3 *described in paragraph (1) shall not apply if the field training*  
4 *officer has already completed such a crisis intervention behavioral*  
5 *health training course within the past 24 months. apply.*

6 (b) ~~This~~*The crisis intervention behavioral health training course*  
7 *shall address issues relating to stigma, shall be culturally relevant*  
8 *and appropriate, and shall include all of the following topics:*

9 (1) The cause and nature of mental illnesses and intellectual  
10 disabilities.

11 (2) (A) How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual  
12 disability, and substance use disorders.

13 (B) How to distinguish between mental illness, intellectual  
14 disability, and substance use disorders.

15 (C) How to respond appropriately in a variety of situations  
16 involving persons with mental illness, intellectual disability, and  
17 substance use disorders.

18 (3) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for  
19 potentially dangerous situations.

20 (4) Appropriate language usage when interacting with potentially  
21 emotionally distressed persons.

22 (5) Community and state resources available to serve persons  
23 with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these  
24 resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.

25 (6) The perspective of individuals or families who have  
26 experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,  
27 and substance use disorders.

28 (c) Field training officers assigned or appointed before January  
29 1, 2017, shall complete the crisis intervention ~~course~~ *behavioral*  
30 *health training* by June 30, 2017. Field training officers assigned  
31 or appointed on or after January 1, 2017, shall complete the crisis  
32 intervention ~~course~~ *behavioral health training* within 180 days of  
33 assignment or appointment.

34 (d) ~~Nothing in this~~*This section shall be construed to does not*  
35 *prevent an agency from requiring its field training officers to*  
36 *complete a additional hours of crisis intervention ~~course~~ with*  
37 *additional hours behavioral health training or requiring its field*  
38 *training officers to complete that training earlier than as required*  
39 *by this section.*

40 SEC. 2. Section 13515.29 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

1 13515.29. (a) The commission shall establish and keep updated  
2 a field training officer course relating to competencies of the field  
3 training program and police training program that addresses how  
4 to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability.

5 (b) This course shall consist of at least four hours of classroom  
6 instruction and instructor-led active learning, such as  
7 scenario-based training, shall address issues related to stigma, and  
8 shall be culturally relevant and appropriate.

9 (c) All prospective field training officers shall complete the  
10 course described in subdivisions (a) and (b) as part of the existing  
11 field training officer program.

12 (d) The commission shall implement the provisions of this  
13 section on or before August 1, 2016.

14 SEC. 3. Section 13515.295 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

15 13515.295. (a) The commission shall, by May 1, 2016, conduct  
16 a review and evaluation of the required competencies of the field  
17 training program and police training program to identify areas  
18 where additional training is necessary to better prepare law  
19 enforcement officers to effectively address incidents involving  
20 persons with a mental illness or intellectual disability.

21 (b) Upon identifying what additional training is needed, the  
22 commission shall update the training in consultation with  
23 appropriate community, local, and state organizations, and agencies  
24 that have expertise in the area of mental illness, intellectual  
25 disabilities, and substance abuse disorders, and with appropriate  
26 consumer and family advocate groups.

27 (c) The training shall address issues related to stigma, shall be  
28 culturally relevant and appropriate, and shall include all of the  
29 following topics:

30 (1) How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual  
31 disability, substance use disorders, neurological disorders,  
32 traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and dementia.

33 (2) Autism spectrum disorder.

34 (3) ~~Down~~ *Genetic disorders, including, but not limited to, down*  
35 *syndrome.*

36 (4) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for  
37 potentially dangerous situations.

38 (5) Alternatives to the use of force when interacting with  
39 potentially dangerous persons with mental illness or intellectual  
40 disabilities.

1 (6) The perspective of individuals or families who have  
2 experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,  
3 and substance use disorders.

4 (7) Involuntary holds.

5 (8) Community and state resources available to serve persons  
6 with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these  
7 resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.

8 SEC. 4. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
9 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
10 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
11 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
12 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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